21st March 1923]

III

PRESENTATION OF PETITION.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I have in my hands a petition prepared and signed by fifteen Dikshitars of the famous Nataraja temple of Chidambaram. It is signed by them as representing the 300 Dikshitars attached to the temple and it conforms to the conditions laid down in the Standing Order for the presentation of a petition. I therefore beg to present this petition."

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1923-24.

DEMAND XXIV—INDUSTRIES—*cont.*

MOTION No. 184.

Mr. A. M. MACDOUGALL :—" The motion that stands in my name runs as follows :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 75,000 *for the School of Arts by Rs.* 100.

My intention in moving this motion is to raise a discussion on the report of the Committee that was appointed to investigate into the conditions of the School of Arts and to reorganize it. The report of that Committee which is in my hands has been published for the information of the public. All that I say is that the School of Arts is evidently another of those institutions in which technical education and industrial workshops are combined. The Director in the report which he laid before this Committee states that this school is not a workshop; but, evidently, he sells all the materials produced by the School of Arts, because in the revenue side of the Budget I find an item of Rs. 6,000 as income derived from this source. One other peculiarity about the School of Arts is that the Government have an item in the Budget which is not mentioned under any other head by the Department of Industries, namely, a bill-collector on a salary of Rs. 23 to Rs. 35. Perhaps that may be a printer's mistake, or may be an artistic name to another Government official. If the School of Arts is not a manufactory for selling goods and issuing bills on that account, I do not see the necessity to have the item of a bill-collector, and I do trust the hon. the Minister for Development will consent to a reduction of this entry and eliminate this particular official.

" From the report, which I have in my hands, I am sorry to learn—and I hope the House will also see that—that the Committee which was appointed to reorganize the School of Arts would not take the power to compel the Director of the School of Arts to appear before them to give his evidence orally, in addition to what he said in his written memorandum."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" Superintendent, Sir."

Mr. A. M. MACDOUGALL :—" One would have thought that in any enquiry it was necessary for an official to appear before the Committee. I am also very pleased to learn from the report that my hon. friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, who is one of the shining lights of the Ministerial Party, says :

According to this report I do not consider the maintenance of so costly a craft school involving over Rs. 75,000 per annum is necessary under the present circumstances. Nor do I feel that an extra grant is necessary in consequence of any re-organization. We have a number of similar institutions in the Presidency ; besides this, the crafts that are taught in the School of Arts are sufficiently advanced in the Presidency and can be picked up easily elsewhere.